

Service Date: March 25, 1981

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATION  
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

\* \* \* \*

IN THE MATTER of The Application       ) UTILITY DIVISION  
of The CITY OF GLENDIVE To Increase    ) DOCKET NO. 81.2.6  
Water Rates.                               ) INTERIM ORDER NO. 4773

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On February 20, 1981 the City of Glendive (Applicant) filed an application with this Commission for authority to increase the water rates on a permanent basis by approximately 161% equaling a revenue increase of approximately \$299,480.
2. Concurrent with the filing of the permanent application for increased rates, the City filed an application for an interim increase in rates of approximately 56.5% equaling a revenue increase of approximately \$103,120 or 34% of the proposed permanent increase.
3. The City alleges the proposed interim increase in rates is necessary to meet increased costs of operation.
4. Examination of the City's filing indicates an expense item for contracted services under "Transmission and Distribution Expense" in the amount of \$23,313 that may not be a recurring expense. The Commission finds that applicant's interim rate increase should be reduced by \$23,313 and the matter of whether the contracted services are a recurring expense be addressed at

the public hearing.

5. The Commission finds that a uniform percentage increase in rates of 34.7% will generate approximately \$79,807 on annual basis and that this interim increase is justified.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Commission has jurisdiction over parties and the subject matter in this proceeding.

2. The Commission may, in its discretion, temporarily approve increases pending a hearing or final action. If the final action is to disapprove the increase, the Commission shall order a rebate to all consumers for the amount collected retroactive to the date of the temporary approval, 69-3-304, MCA.

3. The application for a permanent increase will be noticed for a hearing at a later date.

#### ORDER

1. IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Applicant file tariff schedules increasing rates by a uniform percentage of 34.7% to all customer classes.

2. The effective date shall be for water service rendered on and after March 23 1981.

3. The increase granted herein is subject to rebate should the

final order in this docket determine that a lesser amount than authorized by this order is required.

4. In the event a rebate is directed by the final order in this docket, provision shall be made in that order to cause all uncollected rebates to be escheated to the State of Montana in the manner provided by law.

DONE IN OPEN SESSION at Helena, Montana this 23rd day of March, 1981, by a 4 - 0 vote.

BY ORDER OF THE MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION.

---

Gordon E. Bollinger, Chairman

---

Thomas J. Schneider, Commissioner

---

Howard L. Ellis, Commissioner

---

John B. Driscoll, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Madeline L. Cottrill  
Secretary  
(SEAL)

NOTE:        You may be entitled to judicial review of the final decision in this matter. If no Motion For Reconsideration is filed, judicial review may be obtained by filing a petition for review within thirty (30) days from the service of this order. If a Motion For Reconsideration is filed, a Commission order is final for purpose of appeal upon the entry of a ruling on that motion, or upon the passage of ten (10) days following the filing of that motion. cf. the Montana Administrative Procedure Act, esp. Sec 2-4-702, MCA; and Commission Rules of Practice and Procedure, esp. 38.2.4806, ARM.

